

REMARKS

Claims 10-25 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the remarks contained herein.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102 AND § 103

The current Office Action indicates that all of the rejections from the previous Office Action have been maintained. Thus, Applicants understand that the current Office Action includes the following rejections: Claims 10-11, 13-14 and 18-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Allum (U.S. Pat. No. 6,063,046). Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Allum (U.S. Pat. No. 6,063,046) in view of an obvious design choice. Claims 15 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Allum (U.S. Pat. No. 6,063,046) in view of Orman et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,785,674). Claims 16-17 and 21-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Allum (U.S. Pat. No. 6,063,046) in view of Girone et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,162,189). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants understand that each and every one of these rejections relies on Allum alone as disclosing at least the features of the only independent claim; i.e., Claim 10. In fact, the current Office Action includes a detailed comparison of Allum to Claim 10. Claim 10, however, recites: "a kinetic model analyzer . . . **determining a target rotation angle** at which the force applied to said plate by said user **is in balance with** the rotating force of said motor; and a motor controller for controlling said motor **so that**

said plate is tilted at said target rotation angle determined by said kinetic model analyzer in accordance with a predetermined kinetic model.” The detailed comparison provided in the Office action does not indicate where Allum discloses or suggests that a target rotation angle is determined to be an ***“angle at which the force applied to said plate by said user is in balance with the rotating force of said motor”*** as recited in Claim 10. Applicants respectfully assert that the determination of such a target angle and tilting the plate at such target angle as recited in Claim 10 is not disclosed or suggested by Allum (as indicated by the lack of any citation in the Office action identifying where such is disclosed in Allum). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that the invention of Claim 10 is neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited prior art as indicated in the current Office Action. Since each of the remaining claims depend from independent Claim 10, directly or indirectly, Applicants respectfully assert that they are likewise patentable for at least the reasons discussed above.

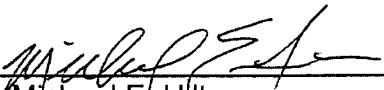
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner

believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 19, 2007

By: 
Michael E. Hilton
Reg. No. 33,509

HARNES, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

MEH/jks